

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

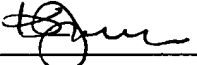
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

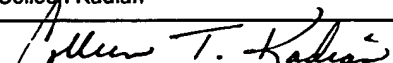
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/904,154	
	Filing Date	07/12/2001	
	First Named Inventor	Adrianus J. van den Nieuwelaar	
	Group Art Unit	3644	
	Examiner Name	Judith A. Nelson	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	V0028/260265

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Kristin L. Johnson Kilpatrick Stockton LLP
Signature	 23370
Date	February 12, 2002

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: February 12, 2002			
Typed or printed name	Colleen Kadian		
Signature		Date	February 12, 2002

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

#9 | Amgt
A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

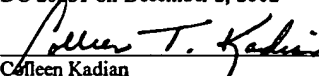
Applicants: Adrianus Josephus van den Nieuwelaar et al.
Serial No.: 09/904,154 Art Unit: 3644
Filed: July 12, 2001 Examiner: Judith A. Nelson
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PROCESSING A SLAUGHTER ANIMAL

Attorney Docket No. V0028/260265

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence being deposited with the United States Postal Service as certified first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231 on December 2, 2002


Colleen Kadian

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed June 5, 2002 in the above-identified patent application.

Amendments in the Claims

Please cancel claims 5 and 7 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, and 16 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for mechanically opening at least one blood vessel in the neck of a slaughter animal, in particular a fowl, comprising:

positioning the neck of the slaughter animal, wherein the neck comprises a longitudinal axis; and

A1